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BY:

L. McLaurin

DATE:

Dec 4, 2002

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re:

Patent Application of
Prockop, *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1632

Appln. No.: 09/695,769

Examiner: R.R. Shukla

Filed: October 25, 2000

Attorney Docket
No. 053844-5006-00
(09598-101U2)
(MCP99-0356)

For: ISOLATION AND EXPANSION OF
HUMAN MARROW STROMAL CELLS

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

This amendment responds to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2002 (Paper No. 8), sent in connection with the above-referenced application. This amendment is being timely filed in view of the accompanying Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time, and associated fee, which extends the time for response to the Office Action to and through December 5, 2002.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-19, 22 and 32-34, as set forth below. A "marked-up" copy of the claims indicating the changes is attached hereto.

1. (Amended) A method of inducing proliferation of isolated human marrow stromal cells in vitro, the method comprising

(1) providing the isolated human marrow stromal cells and a growth medium to a growth surface such that the initial density of the isolated human marrow stromal cells is less than about 50 cells per square centimeter of growth surface, and